INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

EXCISE

(697) 63

DEF 12-5 SR

DEF 12-5 LEB

Pol 33-1 JORDAN RIVE

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SECRET

82
Action EUR Info SS G SP SAH L AF NEA IO P USIA NSC INR CIA NSA DOD AID

QVV FHE006VV HPA160
RR RUEHCR RUQMBE RUQMVL
DE RUFHPA 0597 13/1859Z
R 1317 0Z ZEA
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC 6458
INFO RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 68
RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TELAVIV 105
ZEN/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 125
ZEN/AMEMBASSY LONDON
ZEN/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
ZEN/AMEMBASSY AMMAN
ZEN/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
ZEN/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
ZEN/AMEMBASSY JIDDA
ZEN/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
ZEN/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
ZEN/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
ZEN/AMEMBASSY RABAT
ZEN/AMEMBASSY TAIZ
ZEN/AMEMBASSY TUNIS
STATE GRNC
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SECRET MAY 13

RMR

HELOU VISIT

QUAI'S [redacted] OFFERED FOLLOWING TWELFTH ON PRESIDENT HELOU'S VISIT: (5/13)

1. VISIT WENT WELL AND BOTH PARTIES SATISFIED. COMMUNIQUE CAREFULLY DRAWN TO ACCOMMODATE PUBLIC POSITIONS BOTH GOVERNMENTS. FRENCH TOLD LEBANESE ISRAEL WAS "FAIT ACCOMPLI" AND AGGRESSION BY AREA STATES UPON EACH OTHER IS DISAPPROVED IN PARIS. COMMUNIQUE COVERED THIS POINT WITH STATEMENT "PEACE

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REQUIRES RESPECT INTEGRITY SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE OF STATES". FRENCH ALSO REVIEWED THEIR EQUITABLE-SHARING THESIS ON JORDAN WATERS. THIS ASPECT REFLECTED IN COMMUNIQUE BY PASSAGE ON INTEREST WITH WHICH FRENCH FOLLOWING EXECUTION LEBANESE DEVELOPMENT PLAN. LEBANESE ASKED FOR "PEACE EQUITY AND JUSTICE" FORMULA WHICH ORIGINALLY USED IN FRANCO-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE. IT PERMITS THEM CLAIM FRENCH SUPPORT FOR ARAB THESES (BEIRUT'S 1246), QUAIOFF SAID, BUT FRENCH GAVE LEBANESE UNDERSTAND THIS NOTE BEST NOT STRUCK TOO HARD OR OFTEN.

SECRET

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2. LEBANESE EXPRESSED DESIRE ACQUIRE "SOME" MIRAGE AIRCRAFT (BEIRUT'S 843 TO DEPT). CLAIMED THEY HAD UAC FUNDS BUT NONE OF THEIR OWN FOR PRUCHASE TEN TO FIFTEEN PLANES. ATSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FRENCH SS-11 ANTITANK ROCKETS.

FRENCH AGREED CONSIDER SALE AIRCRAFT AND FEW THESE ROCKETS WITH PRICE, CREDIT TERMS, ETC. REMAINING BE AGREED.

3. QUAIOFF SAID LEBANESE DID NOT, REPEAT NOT, RESPOND TO FRENCH PRESENTATION ON KEY JORDAN WATERS QUESTION. HE WONDERED OUT LOUD WHETHER GOVERNMENT AT BEIRUT HAD DECIDED PROVOKE LIMITED ISRAELI SALLY IN ORDER BUY TIME BY TAKING MATTER

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TO UN. HE ALSO SUGGESTED LEBANESE PERHAPS LESS INTERESTED IN MIRAGES AS SUCH THAN IN USING THEM TO REDUCE CAIRO PRESSURES MEET LEBANON'S UAC COMMITMENTS.

4. QUAIOFF THEN ASKED USGOVTS ATTITUDE ON MIRAGES FOR LEBANON; WAS IT SIMILAR TO US VIEW MARAGES FOR JORDAN OR WAS CASE OF LEBANON COMPETITIVE SITUATION AS IN SAUDI ARABIA? EMBOFF UNDERTOOK CONVEY QUERY TO DEPT AND QUAIOFF HOPED FOR EARLY REPLY TO HELP FRENCH FORMULATE OWN POSITION ON LEBANESE REQUEST.

5. TALK TURNED TO LEBANESE PRESS REPORTS ON FRENCH MD-620 ROCKETS. EMBOFF NOTED WIDESPREAD SPECULATION ON GENESIS ARTICLES (BEIRUT'S 12-7). QUAIOFF SAID LEBANESE OPINING BRITISH OR AMERICANS HAD PLANTED STORS, EXPRESSED OWN VIEW EGYPTIANS MIGHT BE RESPONSIBLE; SAID FRENCH EMBASSY BEIRUT HAD NOT YET IDENTIFIED ORIGIN THIS ITEM. EMBOFF CONFINED HIMSELF TO STATEMENT, WHICH QUAIOFF READILY ACCEPTED, US HAD NO REASONS WISH INTERFERE WITH SUCCESSFUL HELOU VISIT HERE.

6. QUAIOFF CONVEYED IMPRESSION OTHER TOPICS COVERED IN TALKS ROUTINE AND DEVOID SPECIAL INTEREST OR SIGNIFICANCE.

GP-2. BOHLEN
BT